(*b*) how is the working of the section up-to-date;
(*c*) what is the investment under this section under various heads;
(*d*) who are the hands in special charge of the section;
(*e*) what is the pay of the employees in this section;
(*f*) what is the net profit to the Government in 1118;
(*g*) what is the interest charged by the Government on the capital expenditure in connection with the manufacture of medicines in the said institution;
(*h*) what interest does the Government realise on their investment in Banks etc. ?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)* :

(*a*) The preparation of medicines intended for sale to public was started from 6th Mithunam 1117.
(*b*) The working of the section is satisfactory.
(*c*) Rs. 99,100 under 'Advances' and Rs. 23,848 under 'Capital Outlay' for 1119.
(*d*) The Assistant Superintendent of Ayurvedic Hospitals (pay Rs. 100) is in charge of the Sales Department under the control of the Superintendent, Ayurvedic Hospitals.
(*e*) Please see list appended *(Appendix III)*.
(*f*) The net profit to Government in 1118 is Rs. 8,587—0—9.
(*g*) 6 per cent per annum.
(*h*) The rate is confidential.

AYURVEDIC DESPENSARY, VADAKKANCHERI—FURNITURE AND MEDICINE SUPPLIED TO

6. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the furniture supplied to the Ayurvedic Dispensary at Vadakkancheri;
(*b*) the actual worth of medicines supplied up to the end of Edavam 1119?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*:

(*a*) One table and one chair have been supplied. Arrangements are being made for the supply of other items of furniture.
(*b*) Medicines worth Rs. 99—15—0 have been supplied.

REVISION OF SALARIES

7. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Will Government be pleased to state whether they have circulated any orders regarding the revision of salaries?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Government have ordered that all proposals for a general revision of salaries would be postponed until after the war or until prices return to a more normal level.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I know whether there has been any special revision? The answer given is that all proposals for a general revision of salaries would be postponed until after the war or until prices return to a more normal level.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: General revision of salaries means revision of all grades and of all classes of officers. In individual cases there may be exemptions. That is no special revision.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)* : May I know whether there has been any revision in individual cases?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)* : There have been a few cases.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Are the Government aware that there has been a general revision of pay in Travancore ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)* : Yes.

8. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)* : Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they propose to have a general revision of salaries of officials in view of the heavy cost of living now obtaining;
(*b*) will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the circular—Huzur Circular No. 12 of 1119 D. Dis. 24467/1118 dated 19th December 1943, F. D.?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) The temporary increase in the cost of living is to be compensated not by revision of pay but the grant of temporary allowance which Government are now giving.
(*b*) A copy is placed on the council table.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: May I know whether the principle enunciated in answer to (a) is thoroughly and strictly adhered to, or whether any exemption is granted in exceptional cases.

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: So far as revision of salaries on account of increassd cost of living is concerned, this rule is strictly followed. No officers' pay is raised because the cost of living has gone up.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Will Government be pleased to realise that Government servants who live in Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Trichur will not be able to meet the additional cost of living with the ordinary dearness allowance that is granted to them as in other places.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Government have very carefully considered this question very many times and they have also taken into account what the Government of India, the Madras Government and the Travancore Government have done to their servants. It was after considering all these questions that they finally decided to give 10 rupees dearness allowance to those below Rs. 15, 12 rupees to those between 15 and 40 and 14 rupees to those between 40 and 200.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Are the Government aware that in Madras a city allowance is given ?

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur:)*: May I know whether the Government have got any idea as to what exactly is the increase in the cost of living.

Mr. President: I would suggest that it is really a subject for a separate question. It opens up an entirely new subject and I think it hardly arises as a supplementary question on this answer.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I take it as a ruling, Sir ?

Mr. President: Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know on what basis the dearness allowance was fixed?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: It was based more or less on general considerations. For example I would say that the minimum pay of a permanent officer in Government service is Rs. 10 and we thought that Rs. 10 to such class of officers will be fair and officers below Rs. 15 and above Rs. 10, are all really officers more or less in the same grade as those whose minimum is fixed as Rs, 10 and so we fixed Rs. 10 for that grade as dearness allowance. Then between 15 and 40 we gave just Rs. 2 more and for officers above that up to Rs. 200 we gave another two rupees more.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: I understand that. What I am asking is whether the cost of living was taken into account in granting this dearness allowance ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: The cost of living was also one of the factors.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What was the percentage in the increased cost of living that the Government found?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: That may be put by means of a separate question.

Mr. President: I have already told the Hon'ble Member for Cranganur that this does not arise as a supplementary question. If the Hon'ble Member wishes to know what exactly is the increase in the cost of living, he should give notice of a separate question.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What was the consideration that weighed with the Government in increasing.....

Mr. President: Will the Hon'ble Member kindly reasume his seat when I stand up. That question has already been answered.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin Christians-Ernakulam)*: May I know whether the dearness allowance granted by our Government is on a level with the dearness allowance granted in the neighbouring British territory and in the Willingdon Island.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: At present it stands on the same level.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know whether there is any reduction in the allowance for those who draw a salary below Rs. 15?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Rs. 10 is the minimum dearness allowance.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: But the Government have fixed a grade between Rs. 10 and 40 thereby putting a sort of reduction in the rate of dearness allowance to those who draw below Rs. 15.

Mr. President: There is no rate lower than Rs. 10.

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Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* But in the dearness allowance given to the subordinates in the Willingdon Island, to those who draw between 10 and 40 there is no gradation between them. Will the Government be pleased to enquire about that?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There is no need for the Government to make any enquiry as to what is being done in the Willingdon Island.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* My information is that between 10 and 40 there is not any other rate fixed.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the rate of dearness allowance given in Travancore?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secertary to Government):* Unfortunately I have not got full details here.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION—AGENCY OR BUREAU FOR

9. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state if they have any idea in view of the post-war reconstuctive measures, to institute an agency or bureau of statistical information in the State?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Government have organised a separate Statistical Branch attached to the Diwan Peishkar's Office. The question of constituting another agency or bureau of statistical information does not, therefore, arise.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether the present statistical Branch deals only with the statistics relating to the Revenue Department?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It relates not only to the Revenue Department but to many other statistics which are necessary for a civilised Government.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know the number of hands already employed in connection with this work.

Mr. A. Madhava Prahbu *(Diwan Peishkar):* One statistical officer, three clerks, one typist and two or three peons.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether there is any particular reason why this is attached to the Diwan Peishkar's Office.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* In all places it is attached to the Revenue Department so far as I know.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether statistics of the cost of living are being studied?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is being studied.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know the results of the study.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It has not yet been possible to find out correct index.

POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION

10. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they will be pleased to place on the Council Table the proceedings of the two meetings held at the Secretariat to consider measure for post-war reconstruction;

(*b*) what are the Government's concrete proposals of post-war reconstruction?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Copies of the proceedings of the two meetings of the conference held in the Secretariat are placed on the table.

(*b*) The proposals are contained in the proceedings referred to in (*a*) above. Government have appointed a Deputy Secretary to be in charge of the post-war reconstruction works and the various proposals will be now duly checked and taken up for consideration by Government. The new officer will also initiate discussion and consideration of fresh proposals, that may be worthy of study.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know Sir, whether as stated in the minutes of the first conference there is any representative of our State on the 5 policy committees instituted by the Government of India?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is there any idea of having any representative of ours on any one of these 5 Committees.

Rama Varma Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. We have taken up the matter with the Government of India.

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